

ANTONIO GONZÁLEZ

U.S. CUSTOMS BROKER

CUSTOMS, TARIFF
&
INTERNATIONAL
COMMERCE

1007 2 1-3 20

March 26, 2003

Mr. Robert Lake
Director, Office of Regulations and Policy
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
Docket Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re. USA PUBLIC HEALTH SECURITY AND
BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS AND
RESPONSE ACT OF 2002

Docket: 02N-0278

Dear Mr. Lake:

We submit the following comment in response to the request for FDA Foods Community Input on Section 307 requiring Prior Notice for food shipments.

Our company is located at the southwest border with Mexico (San Diego District). Many of our clients (US importers and Mexican exporters) are engaged in the business of perishable goods, mainly vegetables. We feel the minimum time for prior notice on this goods, due to their perishable nature, should be no more than two hours as many growers in Mexico are less than this time from a truck leaving an exporter's facility and reaching our port of entry (Otay Mesa 2506)

Perishable goods with limited shelf life such as vegetables may be compromised at great expense with any paperwork delay at the port of entry.

Respectfully,



Antonio Gonzalez
Customs Broker
License 14309

Cc. FDA, Otay Mesa Port of Entry Office/San Diego, California 92154
Importers/Clients

02N-0278

C117